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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer; telephone: (843) 571-4366; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: kim.iverson@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to further develop the options paper for Amendment 6 to the South Atlantic Shrimp Fishery Management Plan by including the advisory panels' input and recommendations. Management actions to be considered in Amendment 6 will include the required Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) criteria for all shrimp species, options to modify or remove the BRD Protocol from the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan and measures to reduce the level of turtle mortality. In relation to the increased number of turtle strandings observed, the Council is considering night time closures in the shrimp fishery as one of the options to remedy this situation.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by August 26, 2002.

Dated: August 9, 2002.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02-20737 Filed 8-14-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071802A]

Marine Mammals; File No. 1013-1648

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Patricia E. Mascarelli, Caribbean Center for Marine Studies, P.O. Box 3197, Lajas, PR 00667, has been issued a permit to take humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*), and bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727)570-5301; fax (727)570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tammy Adams or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 14, 2001, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 57040) that a request for a scientific research permit to take humpback whales, spinner dolphins, and bottlenose dolphins had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Permit No. 1013-1648 authorizes takes of up to 50 humpback whales per year for 5 years by harassment from close approach for photo-identification, collection of sloughed skin, and behavioral observations for the purpose of estimating abundance, habitat use, and behavior. The permit also authorizes inadvertent harassment of up to 200 humpback whales per year and unlimited annual takes of spinner and bottlenose dolphins by inadvertent harassment during these activities.

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: August 8, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02-20736 Filed 8-14-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Rules for Patent Maintenance Fees

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the revision of a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 15, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Management, Data Administration Division, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 308-7400; or by electronic mail at susan.brown@uspto.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Robert J. Spar, Director, Office of Patent Legal Administration, USPTO, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 308-5107; or by electronic mail at bob.spar@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Abstract

Under 35 U.S.C. 41(b) and 37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g) and 1.362, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) charges fees for maintaining in force all utility patents based on applications filed on or after December 12, 1980. Payment of these maintenance fees is required at 3½, 7½, and 11½ years after the date the patent was granted. If the payment of the appropriate maintenance fee is not received within a grace period of six months following each of the above intervals (at 4, 8, or 12 years after the date of grant), the patent will expire at that time as set forth in 37 CFR 1.362(g). If a patent has expired due to nonpayment of a maintenance fee, the